

Below is the schedule of webinars set for 2015. Webinars are set for the last Tuesday of the month, with the exception of March, from 1:00-2:00pm CST. You will receive call-in/connection information for each webinar a week or two in advance. Closed captioning will be provided and each webinar will also be recorded to be shared to the entire mailing list after.

2/24/15, 1-2 pm: Implementation of Discovery & Person-Centered Planning to Influence Employment Outcomes. Please join us in hearing from Iowa providers & how they are implementing individualized & person-centered strategies to achieve integrated, competitive employment outcomes. We will hear from Kelly Kratz, NIVC; Ashlea Lantz, Candeo; & Toni Tewes, My Choice Employment.

3/31/15, 1-2 pm: Mental Health & Employment Best Practices; Doug Crandell, Griffin-Hammis Associates. This session will discuss best practices when supporting individuals with mental health diagnoses in achieving individualized, competitive employment. Doug will review & discuss the Individual Placement & Supports (IPS) model, its tenants & competencies, as well as important factors for teams & organizations to be mindful of when building & utilizing the model.

4/28/15, 1-2pm: The Role & Importance of Parent Engagement in Individualizing Employment Outcomes. This session will feature Deb Samson, State PEC Coordinator & parent, as well as Kelly Von Lehmden, parent liaison for the Center for Disabilities & Development, Special Education Advisory Panel member, & parent. This discussion will focus on how to effectively engage parents & family members around transition & integrated competitive employment. Our speakers will share their professional & personal perspectives, offering effective strategies, things to consider, approaches to building & communicating expectation, & supporting parents & families throughout the employment process to achieve desired outcomes.

5/26/15, 1-2 pm: High Performing Community-Based Pre-Vocational Services; Rachel Pollock, Job Path, Inc. The focus of this webinar is on best practices in community-based pre-vocational & day services, where employment/integration is the end goal. What do high performing community-based pre-vocational services look like? What do individuals' days look like? What are some of the 'nuts & bolts' of developing & maintaining high quality services & achieving employment outcomes? What do traditional pre-vocational &/or day programs want to focus on &/or consider when transitioning their programs as it relates to low cost, low impact? How do teams/agencies validate & address opposition & fear from their various stakeholders as they shift their programs & services?

6/23/15, 1-2 pm: Join us for the second in this two part series on High Performing Community-Based Pre-Vocational Services & Strategies Leading to Transformation Success for Providers in Individualized Employment Planning. This session will feature Iowa expert LeAnn Moskowitz, Program Manager with Iowa Medicaid Enterprise. LeAnn will also focus on strategies to develop high performing community-based pre-vocational & day services, including how to creatively utilize our existing service & funding system to individualize employment outcomes.

7/28/15, 1-2 pm: School-to-Work & Successful Transition Practices; Rick Hawes, Berkshire County Arc. In the first of this two part series; Rick will provide a national perspective, & specifically his perspective & experiences in working in transition over the last 20+ years. Discussion will include successful strategies in engaging schools & other stakeholders in the transition process, including how to establish & maintain collaborative relationships, in order to achieve integrated employment outcomes for students. Rick will also share other practices & approaches he has found successful in supporting students with disabilities to gain community-based work experiences &/or paid employment prior to leaving high school.

8/25/15, 1-2 pm: School-to-Work & Successful Transition Practices-What is happening in Iowa? Join us for part two of this series & hear from Kim Drew with the Department of Education, who will focus on emerging promising practices & lessons learned in successful transition through the lens of the 4 Essential Elements. Janet Phelps with Van Buren Job Opportunities & Cindy Whalen with IVRS will also join us to share the community employment provider “on the ground perspective”; including emerging promising practices & lessons learned from their successful partnering with Keokuk schools.

9/22/15, 1-2 pm: The topic for this webinar remains open. We will craft this topic based on your feedback, suggestions, &/or emerging needs.

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